

House Resolution 376

By: Representatives Abdul-Salaam of the 74th, Brooks of the 63rd, Thomas of the 55th, Porter of the 143rd, Sinkfield of the 60th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Capitol Arts Standards Commission to authorize the placement of a portrait of
2 Ms. Coretta Scott King on the second floor of the state capitol building alongside the portrait
3 of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, Coretta Scott was born on April 27, 1927, in Heiberger, Perry County,
5 Alabama, near Marion. She was the second of three children born to Obediah Scott, an
6 enterprising entrepreneur, and Bernice McMurray Scott; and in 1945, she enrolled at Antioch
7 College in Yellow Springs, Ohio, pursuing majors in music and education; and

8 WHEREAS, on June 18, 1953, Coretta Scott married Martin Luther King, Jr., with the
9 Reverend King, Sr., officiating at the wedding ceremony. Over the next ten years, the couple
10 welcomed four children into their family: Yolanda Denise, November 17, 1955, Martin
11 Luther III, October 23, 1957, Dexter Scott, January 30, 1961, and Bernice Albertine, March
12 28, 1963; and

13 WHEREAS, in 1956, when her first child was not even a year old, Mrs. King stood by her
14 husband's side as the Montgomery bus boycott began, and never did her support and
15 conviction waver, not when her house was bombed and not when her husband was jailed,
16 assaulted, and murdered for his commitment to human rights. She shared her husband's
17 steadfast commitment to seek peace and justice through nonviolent action and played a
18 leading role in advocating social change across the nation and throughout the world during
19 his lifetime and thereafter; and she continued to be a prominent voice in maintaining the
20 enduring legacy of her husband's dreams to the moment of her death; and

21 WHEREAS, while Dr. King is an undisputed hero of the movement, excelling in the
22 sincerity of his conviction, and his unwillingness to compromise in matters of nonviolence,
23 Mrs. King is a hero in her own right. Sadly, even though she has received many honors,
24 most "mainstream" Americans do not know of her accomplishments, her convictions, and
25 her tireless work on behalf of a free and equal society.

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
2 the members of this body urge the Capitol Arts Standards Commission to authorize the
3 placement of a portrait of Ms. Coretta Scott King on the second floor of the state capitol
4 building alongside the portrait of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
6 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Capitol Arts Standards
7 Commission.